



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1956, a 2.5 square mile area of land in  
3 unincorporated Cook County was unwanted by neighboring  
4 communities; and

5 WHEREAS, Eighty-five pioneering residents living in this  
6 unincorporated area of Cook County were searching for municipal  
7 services, schools, and a good place to live the American dream;  
8 they refused to be beaten by others and decided to incorporate  
9 and become the Village of Rosemont in 1956; and

10 WHEREAS, Mayor Donald E. Stephens became the first elected  
11 (and only) mayor of the Village of Rosemont; and

12 WHEREAS, This new Village of Rosemont was adjacent to what  
13 would become, in the next 20 years, the world's busiest  
14 airport, O'Hare International Airport; and

15 WHEREAS, The residents had the vision and foresight to  
16 transform the Village of Rosemont into a center of commerce by  
17 building hospitality and entertainment facilities to support  
18 the international and domestic air travelers using the world's  
19 busiest airport; and

20 WHEREAS, Today, Rosemont's 4,224 residents and some 12,000  
21 hospitality employees work together to serve meeting,  
22 convention, tradeshow, business, and entertainment customers  
23 from around the world; and

24 WHEREAS, Rosemont hosts an average of 50,000 visitors daily  
25 and owns and operates some of Chicagoland's finest meeting,  
26 entertainment, special event, and tradeshow facilities,  
27 including the Donald E. Stephens Convention and Conference  
28 Center, which is a top 10 meeting/convention/trade show venue,  
29 the Allstate Arena, and the Rosemont Theatre; and

1           WHEREAS, The Donald E. Stephens Convention and Conference  
2 Center is a 1,000,000 square foot convention center and may be  
3 the only one in the nation that returns revenue without any  
4 subsidies or room taxes; it hosts approximately 100 trade  
5 conventions and public shows a year and welcomes more than  
6 1,000,000 delegates and attendees to public and private shows  
7 annually; and

8           WHEREAS, The Allstate Arena, formerly known as the Rosemont  
9 Horizon, has been recognized by PERFORMANCE MAGAZINE as both  
10 "Top Grossing Arena" and "Arena of the Year"; the venue hosts  
11 more than 150 events annually, attracting an average of  
12 1,500,000 audience members to witness some of the world's top  
13 musical performers and family shows like the Ringling Brothers  
14 Barnum and Bailey Circus and Disney on Ice and serves as home  
15 of the DePaul Blue Demons basketball team (NCAA), Chicago  
16 Wolves hockey (AHL), and Chicago Rush arena football (AFL); and

17           WHEREAS, The beautiful plush, 4,400-seat Rosemont Theatre  
18 hosts lavish Broadway musicals, full-scale productions, and  
19 world-class entertainers including Jay Leno and the entire  
20 "Tonight Show", Ashley Judd, the Radio City Rockettes, a  
21 variety of family shows, and is home to the Chicagoland Pops  
22 Orchestra; and

23           WHEREAS, Rosemont is home to some of the world's most  
24 prestigious hoteliers, including Crowne Plaza, Hyatt,  
25 Marriott, Sheraton, Sofitel, Westin, Wyndham, and others,  
26 boasting more than 5,600 rooms; and

27           WHEREAS, Rosemont is home to some of Chicago's finest  
28 dining establishments, including Morton's, Nick's Fishmarket,  
29 Carlucci, Gibsons Steak House, and Harry Carey's; and

30           WHEREAS, The, tiny Village of Rosemont and its residents

1 have generated billions of dollars for the Illinois economy and  
2 hold a strong vision for growing their convention and visitor  
3 business and service to the people of Illinois in the next 50  
4 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Rosemont is kicking off its 50th anniversary year  
6 on Friday, January 20, 2006; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
8 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
9 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we recognize the year of 2006 as  
10 "The Year of Rosemont" in Illinois and encourage public and  
11 private entities to congratulate Rosemont on its "50 years of  
12 Welcoming the World"; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to the Village of Rosemont as an expression of our  
15 esteem.